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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TO: Editors/News Directors
FROM: Mike Gabbard 547-7001 or 753-6001

GABBARD BILL BANS CAMPAIGN SPENDING VIOLATORS FROM CITY CONTRACTS

HONOLULU – APRIL 21, 2004 – CITY COUNCILMAN MIKE GABBARD TODAY introduced a bill to ban persons and companies who have violated the state's campaign spending laws from receiving City contracts.

"City taxpayer dollars should not be spent on hiring people or companies who illegally attempt to influence elections or try to win big contracts through illegal campaign donations," Gabbard said. "We've seen that tens of thousands of dollars means very little to some of these companies in comparison to the multi-million dollar contracts the City awards. The possibility of a fine isn't enough to stop some of these guys. We need to send a loud and clear message that if you violate the campaign spending laws you won't be doing business with the City."

The state procurement code currently contains an interim administrative rule requiring initiation of debarment procedures for persons who violate the state's campaign financing laws and are fined at least \$5,000 or if the person is convicted under the campaign financing laws' criminal prosecution section. Gabbard's bill would make those provisions a permanent part of City law.

Copies of Bill 32 are available at the City Clerk's office or by calling 547-7001. Mike Gabbard represents City Council District 1 that includes Ewa Beach, Kapolei, Honokai Hale, Ko Olina, and the entire Wai'anāe Coast.

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